

March 2, 1976

SENATOR DICKINSON: I see no particular opposition to this bill and at the same time see no particular need for it and that is my opposition to it, adopting something that seems to be totally unneeded. I don't think that Senator Lewis has shown any need whatsoever, really.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Motion on the desk.

PRESIDENT: Read the motion.

CLERK: Read the Swigart motion.

PRESIDENT: Senator Swigart.

SENATOR SWIGART: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I think that Frank all but sanctioned this move the other day. I believe that it would be a good thing to have him elected instead of appointed because this is a non-partisan body. All of the rest of the members of the board have to be elected. They run against competition and I see no reason why a new member should not be elected too. I know that they are going to say that well he will be after the first appointment, but that is the way that you get in for free so to speak by being appointed first. But the appointment would be chosen in a partisan basis. So, I think that it ought to be wide open. Let everyone run. There is no rush about this bill, you know, that we haven't had it through all of the existence of this organization, MUD, and so, I think that we ought to just open it up. There is no rush. At the very next election everybody could run and be wholesome and done right. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: I rise to support Senator Swigart's amendment. I was under the impression that last Friday Senator Lewis was going to bring in an amendment similar to this on his own. Because at that time I questioned the appointment for six years, which I think is very unreasonable. I think that Senator Swigart has introduced the proper motion. There is no great haste for this bill and additional member. I think that this would be right and proper that at the next election, following the passage of this bill that there would be an extra seat on this board that that person would then file and win it through the proper elected method rather than a political appointment.

PRESIDENT: Senator F. Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman the reason that we didn't take action on the bill on Friday was because some of my votes were gone. I certainly made no promise of any bill....this bill is in the position that I want it in now, with the amendment that I put on it, particularly for Senator George. I don't think that we ought to take a lot of time debating bills of this type. I think that the bill is clear, that the issue is clear and I would move the previous question on Senator Swigart's motion. I oppose it by the way.

PRESIDENT: You are asking that debate cease?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Yes.